

UNITED STATES MINT



2009 ULTRA HIGH RELIEF  
DOUBLE EAGLE GOLD COIN

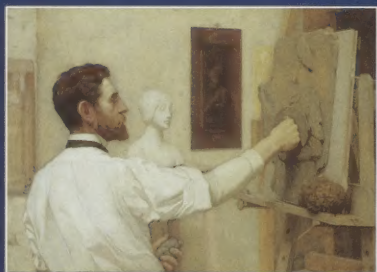


Coins have always been among the most visible, tangible representations of a country and its people. In the early 1900's President Roosevelt called for a "renaissance" in American coinage. He thought the coins of that era were unattractive and wanted them to embody the Nation's unique identity and growing preeminence on the world stage. The United States of

America, a bold experiment in liberty and representative democracy, had come of age. Roosevelt sought bold innovation where changes had seldom occurred up to that time, and he wanted only the best. It was this sense of purpose that led him in 1905 to choose Augustus Saint-Gaudens to redesign America's coins, especially gold pieces. Saint-Gaudens was a renowned sculptor and an artist who shared the President's vision for expressing our national identity visually through art.

What emerged has been called the most beautiful coin ever minted in the U.S. and perhaps the world — the 1907 \$20 gold piece, also known as the Double Eagle.

*Photo of Augustus Saint-Gaudens: Kenyon Cox (American, 1856-1919) Augustus Saint-Gaudens, 1887; this replica, 1908, oil on canvas, 33 1/2 x 47 1/8 in. (85.1 x 119.7 cm): The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Gift of friends of the sculptor (through August F. Jaccaci), 1908 (08.130) Photograph © 1985 The Metropolitan Museum of Art.*



UH1 2009 Ultra High Relief Double Eagle Gold Coin



The 2009 Ultra High Relief Double Eagle Gold Coin will be produced subject to gold blank availability throughout the worldwide market. In order to ensure the broadest and most fair access to the 2009 Ultra High Relief Double Eagle Gold Coin, a household order limit of one (1) coin is in effect. The household order limit will be reevaluated on a weekly basis and the United States Mint will either extend, adjust or remove the limit.

The 2009 Ultra High Relief Double Eagle Gold Coin goes on sale at 12:00 noon (ET) on January 22, 2009. Please check our website or call for current pricing. Visit [www.usmint.gov](http://www.usmint.gov) or call 1-800-USA-MINT (872-6468).

#### 2009 ULTRA HIGH RELIEF DOUBLE EAGLE GOLD COIN SPECIFICATIONS

One Ounce, Twenty Dollar Coin

Condition:	Business Strike
Date:	2009
Mint:	West Point
Mint Mark:	None
Diameter:	27 mm
Thickness:	4 mm
Composition:	24-Karat (.9999) Fine Gold
Weight:	1.0001 Troy Ounce (31.108g)

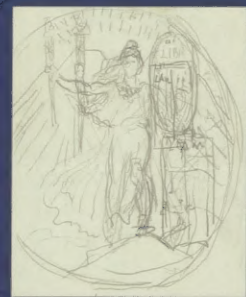
# 2009 ULTRA HIGH RELIEF DOUBLE EAGLE GOLD COIN

The United States Mint is proud to offer the public the opportunity to own a beautiful 2009 Ultra High Relief Double Eagle Gold Coin. This triumph in coin design represents the culmination — more than a century in the making — of a partnership between a renowned artist, Augustus Saint-Gaudens, and a visionary leader, President Theodore Roosevelt. The coin, a digitally reproduced version of Saint-Gaudens' original 1907 Double Eagle coin, is a uniquely American artistic expression — created by an American sculptor and crafted by an iconic American institution.



Today, the United States Mint looks forward to a new era of modern coinage as it eagerly continues its storied tradition of embodying America's spirit and identity through its coins and medals.

Join the United States Mint in celebrating the very best it has to offer the American public. Share the exhilarating sense of unlimited possibilities coursing through the national veins at the dawn of the 20th century. Travel back to 1905, when Roosevelt, seeking to claim the highest ground for American coinage, first contacted Augustus Saint-Gaudens and embarked on perhaps the greatest artistic collaboration ever seen in the realm of coin design.



*This is one of the early design variations by Saint-Gaudens. Augustus Saint-Gaudens Sketch: Courtesy of Dartmouth College Library, located in Rauner Special Collections Library.*



*An epoxy resin cast from Saint-Gaudens' original obverse plaster.*

On the obverse, Saint-Gaudens shows Liberty, personified by a statuesque woman striding powerfully forward. Liberty's robe harkens back to our roots as a republic based on the ideals of ancient Greece and Rome. Liberty is leading the way with a torch in her front hand and an olive branch in the back hand. This design underscores that liberty is central to the American spirit, is beautiful and attractive to all, and wherever Liberty goes, inspired by enlightenment, peace follows. The United States Capitol dome is also depicted in the background, meaning that through representative democracy, liberty has been fully achieved in America, strengthening Lady Liberty's position to go forth throughout the world. A young eagle flying during a sunrise is depicted on the reverse. This is America, young and strong, in its ascendancy with a bright future before it.

Despite Saint-Gaudens' stunning artistic masterpiece, the minting process of the time was not conducive to high relief coins, which he and Roosevelt specifically desired. As a result, despite being considered one of the most beautiful gold pieces ever minted, Saint-Gaudens' full vision for the production of an ultra high relief coin was never realized. Until now...



*A set of dies used in the production of the "feasibility strikes." The strikes used geometric shapes to simulate the highest and lowest points of relief on the coin. The hardness of the blanks, metal flow to the points in the design, and the number of required strikes were all tested.*

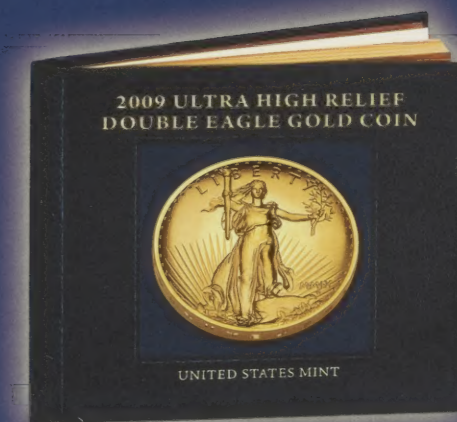
*Another phase in the testing came with "progression strikes." These tested the Saint-Gaudens' design at different tonnages ranging from 15 metric tons to more than 60. With each increase in tonnage, issues such as "fill" and "finning" were tested. It was determined that during full production, only two strikes would be required and the tonnage would be set at approximately 65 metric tons.*



*Through 21st century technology and the vision of United States Mint Director Ed Moy, original Saint-Gaudens coin plasters were digitally mapped and the Saint-Gaudens sculpture — in ultra high relief — was updated to reflect the year 2009, an additional four stars were added to represent the current 50 states, and the inscription "In God We Trust," which was not on the 1907 version, was added. A small border provides for a more consistent edge with the inscription E PLURIBUS UNUM in raised edge-lettering separated by stars. The coin is made of pure 24-karat gold.*



The packaging for the 2009 Ultra High Relief Double Eagle Gold Coin befits the world's most beautiful coin. It is a mahogany wood box with velvet lining. A wood platform encasing the coin capsule allows the coin to be visible without tilting it. The box is finished with a high-gloss lacquer and the inscriptions used are in a font similar to those used in the early 1900s.



Included with each 2009 Ultra High Relief Double Eagle Gold Coin is an official United States Mint companion book that chronicles the story of the original 1907 Double Eagle, and describes the modern technologies and processes that the United States Mint employed to perfect this unique legal tender United States coin. This high-quality hard-bound volume features textual passages, photographs, and images that comprise the United States Mint's official digest of the Government's endeavor to mint and issue a modern American coin that embodies the features of a renowned numismatic masterpiece. (The book is not sold separately.)

## HOW TO ORDER

### ONLINE

[www.usmint.gov](http://www.usmint.gov)

### PHONE

1-800-USA-MINT (872-6468)

8 a.m. - midnight (ET), seven days a week

TTY 1-888-321-MINT (6468)

8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. (ET), Monday through Friday

Due to the possibility of pricing fluctuations,  
no mail orders will be accepted.

*Coins shown are not actual size. All photography of the 2009 coins were taken during the developmental process.*



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UNITED STATES MINT

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